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## (54) Medical electrical lead

(57) A medical electrical lead for establishing an electrical connection with a tissue of the body, the lead having a lead body 6 and a semi-cylindrical cuff 15. In the preferred embodiment the semi-cylindrical cuff features one or more electrodes 10, 11, 12. The semi-cylindrical cuff having a long flap 16 which wraps about the cuff and a short flap 17 which wraps about the long flap. The semi-cylindrical cuff is relatively stiff as compared to the short flap. The short flap, in turn, is relatively the same stiffness as the long flap. The stiffness of each flap may be varied, however, so that one is more or less than the other, and in turn, than the cuff. Through such a multi-flap construction the electrodes may be positioned proximal to a nerve in such a manner that the mechanically induced damage may be minimized or even entirely eliminated. Finally, a method of implanting such an electrode is also disclosed.

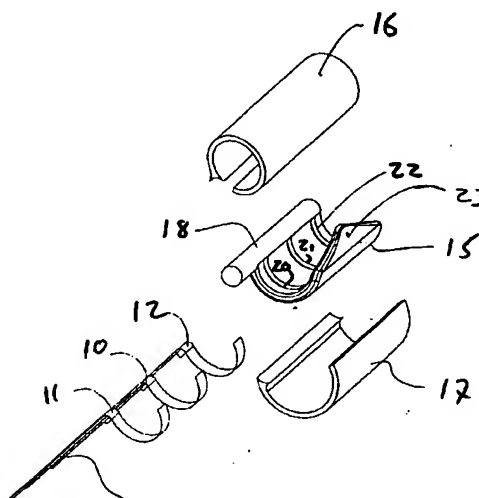


Fig 4A

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
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| Place of search<br><b>THE HAGUE</b>   |  | Date of completion of the search<br><b>18 October 1999</b> | Examiner<br><b>Rakotondrajaona, C</b>           |
| <p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br/>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br/>A : technological background<br/>O : non-written disclosure<br/>P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br/>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br/>D : document cited in the application<br/>L : document cited for other reasons<br/>&amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p> |  |  |   |

EPO FORM 1503 03/92 (Pct/Co1)

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